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**MA ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE COORDINATING COUNCIL (EACC)  
APPROVES FOUR NEW CERTIFIED PROJECTS**

*Attracting \$31.5 Million Private Investment, Creating 323 New Jobs*

BOSTON – Tuesday, May 5, 2009 – Today, the Economic Assistance Coordinating Council (EACC) announced four Certified Projects were approved at it's meeting on April 29, 2009. The four projects will directly create jobs and investment in Chelsea, Quincy, Springfield, and Worcester. Collectively, these Certified Projects plan to create 323 new full-time jobs and bring \$31.5 million private investment to enhance the Massachusetts economy. In addition to the Economic Opportunities Areas (EOAs) designated for the corresponding Certified Projects, the EACC also designated three more EOAs in the town of Franklin and one EOA in the town of Athol.

The EACC is a fourteen member state board that reviews and considers proposed municipal and business applications in the Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP). Applications in the program include designations for Economic Target Areas (ETA) and Economic Opportunity Areas (EOA), as well as business applications for proposed Certified Projects. Once approved, Certified Projects are eligible to receive local Tax Increment Financing Agreement (TIF) or Special Tax Assessment (STA) negotiated and approved by the local municipality as well as the State 5% Economic Opportunity Area Investment Tax Credit.

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“Massachusetts continues to work aggressively to create business tools to spur growth and expansion with businesses across the state,” said George Ramirez, the EACC’s Co-Chair. “The private investment being made will not only result in over 323 new jobs, but the multiplier effect from this investment will also have a positive economic impact that will ripple beyond the walls of each company and local municipality.”

The City of Chelsea presented the Chelsea Gateway Property, LLC and Cambria Suites Certified Project. Along with a neighboring, existing hotel in Chelsea, the city is hoping to create a hospitality district with close proximity to Logan International Airport. With this development, Chelsea will welcome the first Cambria Suites Hotel in Massachusetts. Once developed, the new upscale hotel will create 28 full time jobs and 8 part-time positions. The project will also invest \$17 million.

P.V. Sullivan is a wholesale distributor of plumbing supplies and equipment. The family-owned business has seen their product lines and customers continue to grow. Due to the growing business, the company searched for sites and was fortunate to find a nearby facility in Quincy, though the company was also looking elsewhere. The company plans to renovate and build-out a former auto warehouse. The company will be able to maintain their existing 33 full time employees while also projecting to create 6 new full time employees. The company also plans to invest \$4.7 million.

Liberty Mutual Insurance Company is a diversified global insurer and the sixth largest property and casualty insurer in the United States (based on 2007 direct written premium). It is headquartered in Boston and employs 3,600 employees in Massachusetts and more than 45,000 worldwide. The company has chosen to open a customer service and sales call center in Springfield. This project projected to create 288 new jobs at the facility, and is well underway with meeting this goal. The company will also invest approximately \$6 million at the facility.

Lastly, 184 Main Street, LLC is a real estate developer renovating an abandoned, downtown Worcester building. Once fully renovated, the developer intends to create one facility management position while also housing three tenants including the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Law Library, a design and printing company, and a securities investment firm. Together, these three tenants anticipate bringing approximately 20 new jobs to the facility while also filling a great void in downtown Worcester.

EDIP is a locally driven program that provides tax benefits to expanding and/or relocating companies in Massachusetts. The program has generated great partnership between companies, municipalities, and the Commonwealth as all parties work together to stimulate economic development throughout Massachusetts.

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*The Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development is one of eight Secretariats that make up the Governors Cabinet. Under the leadership of Secretary Gregory Bialeckil, the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development oversees the following undersecretariats: the Departments of Business Development, Housing and Community Development, and Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation.*

*The Massachusetts Office of Business Development, part of the Department of Business Development, is committed to assisting companies who want to locate, expand, grow, or maintain a presence in Massachusetts. Through six regional offices and five industry specialists, MOBD works with companies and municipalities to help them take advantage of available economic incentive programs. MOBD also assists companies*

*in navigating and accessing the technical, human, financial, training, educational and siting resources necessary to expand or locate in Massachusetts.*